

THE FREE PRESS.

HARRY FREEZE, Publisher.

HAYS CITY, - - KANSAS.

KANSAS ITEMS OF INTEREST.

A two days' Catholic fair at Clay Center netted \$300.

Cigarette smoking is prohibited in the postoffice building at Beloit.

Wellsville Baptists raised \$550 at the recent dedication of their church and are out of debt.

The Kansas papers had a better run of Christmas advertising this year than ever before.

It is difficult in the whole state to find a single woman who believes that John Collins was guilty.

The up-to-date Presbyterians of Burlingame had a Ferris wheel in place of the old fashioned Christmas tree.

W. H. Haskell of Gaylord feeds daily \$100 worth of corn to cattle and hogs he is fitting up for the market a little later on.

The people of Humboldt have a grievance. The claim is made that the town is persistently misrepresented by every other town within the limits of the gas district.

An Ellsworth county stock man was with considerable pride displaying on the streets of the county seat the other day an eighteen months old bull that weighed 1,385 pounds.

Christmas day there was a rumor all over Kansas that John Collins had committed suicide. The rumor was broadcast simply because it occurred to people in widely distanced places to tell the same lie.

It is all right, of course, to class Kansas as a prairie state, but in the vicinity of Cummings, a small town in Atchison county, three saw mills are in operation, and they are not working on sawdust either.

The insurance companies are now fighting against putting up the money on the policies of Kimmel, the Arkansas City banker who completely disappeared. Do the insurance companies ever pay without a growl?

J. C. Lewis, of Santa Fe, is another man who will agree that there are too many worthless dogs in Kansas. He had a valuable brood sow that was chased, worried and bitten by dogs until she died from the effects of it.

The able old sport of the Ellsworth Reporter notes as another evidence of prosperity that the ante in Kansas poker games is higher this year than for a long time. This, however, will not appeal with any great degree of force to the man who has the wrong kind of spots on his cards.

Harry Allen advises the young man who is tempted to become an office seeker to take a trip to Topeka and watch the surging crowd who are "after something." It is a fact that the sight of this push has a tendency to cause the man who has a job he can hold to feel contented with his lot.

The hog has received a great many kicks and curses in his day but he has gone right along peacefully grunting and converting almost any kind of old cast off and refuse food into pork and the pork into money to pay mortgages, build houses and barns and buy pianos and other luxuries for his numerous friends.

Thanks to the generosity of the people of Atchison, says the Globe, the inmates of the Orphans' Home had the most successful Christmas treat this year in the history of the institution. There are 228 children in the home and each one received at least three presents, aside from almost unlimited amounts of nuts, candy and popcorn.

Out in western Kansas it is not an uncommon thing for residents of the country to put their horses up at a livery stable, and then take their own night's rest in a burrow in the hay mow. A liveryman at Hoxie says that he has no objections to this plan, but he does think it is a shanty trick for a man to put up his team at a rival barn and then come to his place for hay mow lodging.

A great deal of roaring has been heard in Kansas on account of "hard times." On account of two crop failures in succession in a province in China, thousands and thousands of people are dying of starvation, the death rate having reached 180 in one day from this cause. Kansas should thank the Lord that never yet have they been up against hard times of this nature. The inability to get the best there is in the market, with theater tickets at will, starts the cry of "hard times" with two many Kansans.

A lot of "hard-working" men, bartenders, etc., have been thrown out of employment in Allen county recently by their employers being placed in jail. Thus the cruel arm of the law takes bread out of the mouth of the "poor but honest" man.

The Wichita Eagle says: Collins did not fire the shots which killed his father. No man's brain is constructed in a way to allow him to kill another, for the assassination of whom he had attempted to hire others who had proved themselves to him unreliable.

A great many of the people who believe that Collins was guilty also hold that his step-mother knew he was the man who fired the shot.

Bounties on wolf scalps vary greatly in many Kansas counties, and a common game is for hunters who kill wolves to cash the scalp where they can get the most for them, regardless of where the game is killed. In Franklin county the bounty has been reduced to such a figure that this business game will not be worked there any more.

Acetylene gas is catching on rapidly at Norton.

In one day the treasurer of Labette county took in thirty-five thousand dollars in taxes.

For the third time the residents of Jola have voted down the question of city ownership of gas.

Members of the Gaylord band last week blew themselves for a complete lot of new instruments.

The warning of the fall in temperature came in ample time to enable one to replenish their coal bin this time.

The salaries of the country school teachers in Kansas averaged \$32 per month, the smallest average in the Union.

After the first of the year the Odd Fellows and Rebeccas of Oswego will meet in a new hall which they are fitting up.

Clay Center wants an insane asylum. Concordia wants a normal school and Stockton may put in a bid for a normal school, too.

Those people at Woodbine who blew up a joint with dynamite certainly have a most emphatic way of manifesting their displeasure.

Westmoreland, the county seat of Pottawatomie, is still making signs for a railroad to come that way. Westmoreland is the only county seat town in the eastern half of the state that is without a railroad.

State Superintendent Stryker has a bill ready for the consideration of the extra session of the legislature, providing for the extension of the text book law so as to include high school books and apparatus.

The Baptists of Peabody will feel better after the dawning of the New Year. On the last day of 1898 special services will be held and at that time the mortgage which has been on the church will be burned.

As further evidence that the people in the western portion of Kansas are doing well it is noted in the Stockton Record that within the past year five fraternal insurance orders have been established in that town.

Girard is very proud of the new First National bank building, which has just been completed at a cost of \$10,000. The Press prints a picture of the edifice which shows that it would be a credit to the best business street of any town in the state.

Speaking of juries and verdicts, modern wisdom suggests that a big life insurance is a great error. If it does not induce your children to murder you, and if somebody else murders you, it induces the insurance companies to prove your children murderers.

The following notice is posted on the door of the office of the Rock Island agent at Phillipsburg: "Halt! About, Face! March! Personally we have no objection to your presence in the office, but we need our time to do our work. Your presence is a hindrance. If you have business to transact, call at the window where we will be pleased to meet you. Please do not come inside the office." The company ought to put that agent on the retired list.

All agricultural colleges should provide winter courses of study and instruction for farmers' boys and girls. The work on the farm demands their help during the summer months and the winter season is the only time that most of the farmers' boys and girls can devote to attending school. The school year for farmers' children who are old enough to attend colleges must begin with about the first of November and end with about the first of April. This gives five months for school in each year.

Milking cows properly requires experience, skill and tact, and is both a science and an art. It requires patience and yet it must be done quickly and gently. A man who can milk eight or ten good cows in an hour and do it well is a valuable man for a dairyman to have. A kicking cow can nearly always be traced to a kicking or unskillful milker. A swearing man or boy should not be allowed to milk a cow, for an oath and a blow generally go together, and they are both indicative of the brute in human form.

Secretary Coburn is overwhelmed with applications for his overhauled, so much so, in fact, that he can not begin to supply the demand. The statement that has been made that there are several tons of old reports of various kinds in the basement of the state house does not apply to his reports. They are gobbled up as fast as they are published. Before the last biennial report was out there were a thousand applications on file for copies, and as soon as the newspapers announced that it had been issued the applications came in by the hundred.

Three fad-end pugilists are giving exhibitions in small towns in western Kansas. Their point is to get enough money to take them on to the next town. The farmers of this section of the country have every reason to be hopeful. Their faith in the country is based on experience. It is said that a large portion of money on deposit at the different banks belongs to the farmers. They are rapidly accumulating capital. There is little demand for eastern money here.

There is never a modern wedding in Kansas where presents are received at all that a silver berry bowl doesn't figure, and almost always as the piece de resistance.

Missouri Pacific passenger conductors who make a monthly mileage of over 4,000 miles have struck a Christmas tree. Beginning with the first of the year they will receive greater pay. The conductors on the Central Branch, who now receive \$100 a month, will after that date draw \$125 per month.

Norton's telephone exchange is now in operation.

Secretary Coburn's "Christmas card" got a hurrah greeting from the press of the state.

A Beloit man recently fell heir to \$5,000. And the best part of it is that he got the money.

It has been found necessary to increase the capacity of the electric light plant at Beloit.

A booze fighter who got too gay in a Beloit hotel was thrown out by the fifteen year old daughter of the land lady.

The saloons have been abolished in some of the western Kansas towns and yet they are not as dry as they might be.

Judge Nelson Case's handsome gift to the Baldwin University was one of the brightest features of the Christmas season.

The Sentinel boasts that Glen Elder is one of the few towns that has no citizen who is badgering Stanley for a position.

The management of a mask ball which is to be held at Hoxie announces that a committee of inspection has been appointed and the members will see that no riff-raff gets into the hall.

Many improvements are being made at the present. Good substantial sheds and shelters are being put up to protect the stock from the coming winter. Generally, the stock is looking well.

An organizer got forty-eight charter members for a new fraternal order at Lyndon. When it comes to rounding up humanity to a finish the professional lodge organizer doesn't take a back seat for anyone.

The railroad that was heading for the new town of Collinsville has missed that place by about seven miles, and a new town called McFall is being built up, from which place a good many people from Collinsville are going.

One couldn't pick up a western Kansas paper last week that didn't tell about two or three car-loads of dressed turkeys being shipped out. It is not our fault if there were not happy Christmas dinners in the eastern cities.

Recently a man and woman, inmates of the Osborne county poor house eloped. The manager found them in Mitchell county, where they passed themselves off as man and wife and brought them back to the poor farm. The man in the case, so the Farmer says, "was very glad to return, but the woman came with reluctance."

Something must be wrong in the air in Mitchell county. The present sheriff has served but half his time, and has already brought more patients to the insane asylum at Topeka than his predecessor did in his whole term; and aside from those placed in the asylum, three were shipped out of the county to other points, where they should have been attended to.

Six months ago twenty-seven ladies belonging to the Presbyterian Aid Society of Cawker received twenty-five cents apiece which they were to invest and return with the increase to the treasurer of the society. Last week the money was called in, and the original \$8.75 has grown to nearly \$70.00. The lady who made the best showing realized \$8 from her investment of a quarter.

The fame of the Santa Fe eating houses and dining car service has been heralded all over the country and those who travel say that no such meals can be had as are served by the Santa Fe. Mr. Fred Harvey is manager of the eating houses and the dining cars and to him and his liberal ideas belongs the credit of the meals that cause even a New York diner out or a Boston epicure to pronounce them par excellence.

At Fort Scott there is pending before the city council an ordinance prohibiting the doing of any sort of work on Sunday for pay, and including even preachers. Fort Scott must be greatly different from most places or it would be very difficult to prove that a preacher got pay for preaching on Sunday. As a rule they don't get pay sufficient to cover more than a small part of their week day work, to say nothing of Sunday.

Custom varies with location. The man who goes to Atchison and opens a good joint is welcomed. In Topeka he is arrested and his place closed until he finally gets tired and quits the game. In Miltonvale shotgun plays have been made and the joint's place is wrecked. At Woodbine dynamite is used and the joint is blown from the earth. The energy and perseverance displayed by some men in running a Kansas joint under adverse conditions would bring them wealth if directed in a legitimate channel.

There ought to be a big attendance at the meeting of the state editorial association in Topeka in January. From the appearance of the Kansas papers things have been coming their way of late.

A McPerson county man who was out driving, wishing his horse to get over the ground a little more swiftly, gave the animal a punch with his shot gun. The weapon was discharged and the horse killed. The local paper classes this as a peculiar and sad occurrence.

The Hiawatha World office, which is hard to beat in its present condition, will soon be in better shape than ever with new and improved machinery.

The Ottawa Indians living in the northeastern part of the Cherokee nation, have held a council and employed attorneys to look after their interests in Washington this winter. About 350,000 is due the tribe from the United States. An effort also will be made to have the Baldwin declared intruders and removed from their holdings in the reservation.

OLD GLORY OVER CUBA

Stars and Stripes Replaces the Red and Yellow Spanish Ensign.

BRIEF, IMPRESSIVE CEREMONY

Amid the Strains of Music and Roar of Cannon Spain Surrenders Her Sovereignty Over Cuba to Representatives of the United States Government—Cuban Generals Present.

HAVANA, Jan. 2.—The sovereignty of Cuba passed from Spain to the United States at noon yesterday.

The form of the transfer was simple, consisting of only an exchange of speeches in the saloon of the palace, the hauling down of the Spanish flag and the raising in its stead of the flag of the United States on the flagstaff on the palace roof. Salutes were fired from the heavy guns of the forts and the warships before and after the change of flags. The raising of the stars and stripes was greeted with cheers by the people who covered the roofs of the buildings around the palace and plaza.

No crowd was permitted to gather in the streets in the vicinity of the palace to witness the epoch-making function. At 9 o'clock a guard composed of the second battalion of the Tenth infantry marched into the Plaza de Armas, under command of Captain Van Vleet, and formed around the square. Captain General Castellanos watched them with interest from the balcony of his apartments as they entered the square and were stationed at all the streets approaching the plaza. No one was allowed to enter without a pass, and all the doors of the palace facing the square were ordered to be closed. Only those who



GENERAL JOHN R. BROOKE.

American Military Governor of Cuba, could get on the roofs and balconies of houses in the neighborhood saw what was going on before the palace.

With the guard was the band of the Second Illinois regiment, which had been selected for the occasion as the best band in the Seventh army corps. With the band were the buglers of the Eighth and Tenth infantry.

The weather was warm, the sun bursting at intervals through the light clouds and the soldiers in blue who were forced to stand in the sun found the heat oppressive. The troops were formed in extended order around the square, three paces apart, and the band was massed in front of the palace entrance across the street, at the edge of the park.

Brigadier General Clous, the master of ceremonies of the day, at 10:30 o'clock issued instructions to the officers who were to take charge of the various departments of the government at 12 o'clock. Colonel Dudley was assigned to the department of justice, office of the secretary of the captain general; Major L. W. V. Kenon, adjutant general of the department; the department of commerce and agriculture; Colonel T. U. Hiss of the commissary department, to the treasury; Captain Frank B. Hanna, assistant adjutant general, to the department of public instruction, and Colonel Dunwoody, of the signal corps, to the public works department. Each of these officers was instructed thus:

"On the firing of the last gun of the first twenty-one at noon, you are to go to the place assigned you and demand possession of the office in the name of the United States."

These orders were given under the arcade of the palace. Each officer had with him a Cuban interpreter, a group of whom stood clad in dark clothes and wearing silk hats. In a carriage

car by were the American flags which were to be raised at various points. At 11:10 Major General Brooke and General Adna R. Chaffee, General Brooke's chief of staff, in the first carriage. In each of the other carriages rode a Cuban general with American officers. The Cubans were Generals Laerret, Mario Menocal, Mayra Echevarria, Serafin Sanchez, Jose Miguel Gomez, Nodarte, Rafael de Cardenas, Agramonte and Vidal and Colonel Valiente. As the carriages drove up the second company of the Thirty-eighth Spanish infantry, under command of Colonel Don Rafael Salamancas, preceded armed, and the American band started up with "The Stars and Stripes Forever," the Spanish colonel saluting.

At 11:45 Major General Lee, military governor of the province of Havana, with his staff, joined General Brooke. The latter then crossed the street to the palace, General Lee on one side of him and General Chaffee on the other,

followed by the other American generals and Cuban officers. The Cubans wore the blue uniforms, brown felt hats and gray gloves, and they carried maces.

A flourish of trumpets greeted the procession, and the Spanish troops presented arms as the Americans entered the palace. The Cubans remained outside until escorted in by members of General Brooke's staff, the Spanish soldiers remaining all the while "muzzled arms." As soon as all were within the Spanish troops formed in column of fours and marched around the right side of the plaza to the docks, while the band of the Second Illinois volunteers played the Spanish royal march.

Spanish Officers Present.

On entering the palace, the American generals went to the saloon facing the plaza, which is on the second floor. It is a lofty chamber, decorated with mirrors of deep gilt frames with satiny draperies and the scarlet arras of Spain over each door and window. Here were gathered the members of the captain general's staff, Colonel Gelpi, Lieutenant Colonels Belled, Girauta and Bonitas, Major Priego, Captain Ritene and Captains Adolfo and Ramon Castellanos, sons of the captain general.

Captain General Castellanos was at this time in a private room off the throne room. He had given a farewell breakfast at 10 o'clock to the members of his staff, and had spent the rest of the morning virtually alone, looking at the Americans from the balcony. The Americans now grouped themselves near a large mirror between the two windows, the Spanish staff being on the right, while on the left were the American staffs, the Cuban generals and the correspondents.

Suddenly Captain General Castellanos entered the saloon without ceremony from the left and greeted General Brooke and others. After shaking hands General Brooke sat upon a sofa, while General Castellanos moved toward the group of Cuban generals. British Vice Consul Jerome introduced him to General Mayra Rodriguez. Shaking both the hands of the Cuban officer, in the usual Spanish fashion, General Castellanos said:

"We have been enemies, but I respect you for your correct attitudes and opinions. I have pleasure in shaking your hand."

General Rodriguez replied: "I thank you, general, and feel sorry for the Spanish army, which has defended the banner it was sworn to defend. I also have pleasure in shaking your hands."

Captain General Castellanos took his position near Major General Brooke. The buzz of conversation on the American side of the chamber contrasted with the silence on the Spanish side. There was a marked difference between the Americans and Spaniards, the former tall, heavy, and wearing much gold cord; the latter small and slight, in blue striped cambric uniforms. The Spaniards were depressed, the Americans correspondingly buoyant.

Hour of 12 Arrives.

At the last stroke of 12 the boom of a gun brought all eyes to the point in the room where stood the captain general, who was talking with an American officer. Immediately all was silence. The captain general stepped to the left, taking his position directly in front of his staff. On his right stood Captain J. S. Hart, interpreter to the United States military commission. Next to Captain Hart, in the order named, were Generals Chaffee, Brooke, Ludlow, Lee, Wade, Butler and Clous. Immediately behind General Chaffee was Senator John W. Daniel of Virginia.

At this moment the band on the plaza was playing the Spanish national hymn. As the guns at Cabanas fortress ceased firing there was a breathless pause in the saloon. Everybody knew that the American flag was being raised on the palace by Major Butler, son of General Butler, and that the stars and stripes was going up on all the other official staffs in Havana. After this second of silence the band on the plaza played "The Star Spangled Banner," while the guns of the fleet and fortresses began to roar out the national salute of twenty-one guns.

Immediately Captain General Castellanos handed the manuscript of his speech to Captain Hart and began to speak. Amid the strains of the band and the noise of the guns it was impossible to hear him. "Close the windows," said one, and the casements were closed; but the sound of the cheering still visibly disturbed the captain general.

Addressing himself to Major General Wade, president of the United States military commission, though he seemed to look at the floor, General Castellanos said:

"Gentlemen—In compliance with the treaty of Paris, the agreement of the military commissioners of the island and the orders of my king, at this moment, January 1, 1898, there ceases in Cuba Spanish sovereignty and begins that of the United States. In consequence, I declare you in command of the island, with the object that you may exercise it, declaring to you that I will be first in respecting it. Peace having been established between our respective governments, I promise you to give all due respect to the United States government and hope that the good relations already existing between our countries will continue until the termination of the evacuation of those under my orders in this territory."

After Captain Hart had translated the address, General Wade said to General Brooke: "I transfer this command to you."

Major General Brooke said: "I accept this great trust in behalf of the government, and President of the United States, and (addressing Captain General Castellanos), I wish you and the gallant gentlemen with you a pleasant return to your native land. May prosperity attend you and all who are with you."

General Brooke in Command.

Generals Brooke and Castellanos then shook hands, after which General Castellanos and staff retired from the throne room, shaking hands with Mr. Jerome, who stood near the door of exit. As they retired there was a movement toward General Brooke, Brigadier General Clous shaking him by the hand and saying: "Success to you." General Brooke and Chaffee,

with others, then stepped upon the balcony and looked down upon the plaza. A big American flag flying over the arsenal was in full view, and farther away the stars and stripes could be seen over Cabanas fortress. Meanwhile the officials of Spain were saying farewell to their nation's seat of power in the new world.

Turning to his officers, General Castellanos said, with tears in his eyes: "Gentlemen, I have been in more battles than I have hairs on my head and my self-possession has never failed me until now. Adieu gentlemen, adieu."

Then, with arms upraised, he moved swiftly toward the stairway, escorted by General Chaffee and followed by his staff. As he crossed the plaza the American ladies who were standing in the balcony of the barracks waved their handkerchiefs and General Castellanos responded by bowing and kissing his hand toward them. At the corner of the plaza, with tears in his eyes, he turned to take a final look at the palace. He could see the American generals on the balcony.

Without a word he turned sharply in the direction of the wharf. History had reversed "the last sigh of the Moor." At the dock Generals Clous and Chaffee bade him farewell and the retiring captain-general put off for the Spanish transport Rabat, on which he will proceed to Matanzas. He will be accompanied by a battalion of the Thirty-eighth infantry.

Major General Brooke held a reception in the palace saloon, the various officials paying their respects and promising allegiance to the United States. First came the doctors of the University of Havana, at their head President Barriel. All wore black silk and velvet gowns and small black silk caps with yellow tassels. All bowed their heads and bowed low. Next came the municipal authorities, headed by the mayor, and after them the economical society, formerly an advisory board to the captain-general, with Senator Alfredo Zayas, its president, leading. Then came the firemen. Numerous speeches were made, to all of which General Brooke replied briefly.

At the close of the reception the Cuban generals were introduced.

The only lady who witnessed the scene in the saloon was Mrs. John Adams Fair of Boston, who was ushered into the palace by mistake. When she was about to retire Colonel Gelpi, the captain-general's chief of staff, begged her to remain. All the other ladies were assigned places in the balcony of the barracks overlooking the plaza.

The parade of the United States troops showed the feeling of the Cuban element of the population. The march was from El Vedado, along the Achi del Norte, the Prado and Central park to Cerro and Quemados. About every fourth house displayed some decoration—a palm branch, a bit of red, white and blue bunting, or a flag. Not a dozen flags were to be seen in the stately parade. In the Achi del Norte the troops passed under the skeletons of triumphal arches, left unfinished when it was decided to postpone the demonstration. The roofs, streets, parks and the wayside in the suburban districts were crowded with curious, but, for the most part, silent spectators. Now and again there was a cry, "Viva los Americanos!" followed by a burst of cheering, but there was no general expression of public rejoicing, though Major General Lee, who rode at the head of the column on a gray charger, received a personal ovation along nearly the entire route.

SECOND TO GO TO CUBA.

Missouri Boys Will Be Given a Taste of Garrison Duty.

SEDALIA, Mo., Jan. 2.—The speculation which has been rife regarding the future of the Second Missouri volunteers was set at rest yesterday upon the receipt of a letter from Major Surgeon S. K. Crawford of that regiment. Dr. Crawford says the Second will undoubtedly see service in Cuba and that all preparations have been made for the early transportation of the regiment to Cuban soil.

Kansas Soldier Dies.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—General Wood, commanding at Santiago, Cuba, has under yesterday's date reported the following deaths to the War department: Privates Green Burrell, D., Twenty-third Kansas volunteers, died December 29, acute dysentery; Frank Paffenbarger, H., Fourth volunteers, 31st, maramus, following typhoid fever.

The Merrimack's Bell.

LIBERTY, Mo., Dec. 31.—President J. P. Greene of William Jewell college has received a letter from Commander James M. Miller of the navy, offering to the college the bell of the collier Merrimack, which was sunk by Hobson at Santiago. Miller was commander of the Merrimack before Hobson took the boat and Liberty is his home.

New Fad of Czar Nicholas.

LONDON, Jan. 2.—The czar has returned to St. Petersburg after a long holiday in the Crimea. Incidentally his majesty has taken up the fad of papering and decorating his rooms with black and white sketches. He has had his study papered entirely with caricatures of himself which he has collected from foreign papers.

More Money for the Sultan.

LONDON, Jan. 2.—The chief eunuch of the sultan of Turkey has just died with a suddenness characteristic of the Golden Horn. He left jewels and plate worth \$250,000, besides over \$300,000 in money, all of which passes, under an old law, into the sultan's treasure box. Poison and the bow string are hinted at.

To Remind United States.

MADRID, Jan. 2.—The minister of foreign affairs, Duke Almodovar del Rio, is about to send a note to Washington to remind the American government of its undertaking, by the terms of the treaty of Paris, to obtain the liberty of the Spanish prisoners in the Philippines.

Revolution in Bolivia.

LIMA, Peru, Jan. 2.—A serious revolution is now proceeding in the republic of Bolivia. The transit trade, by way of Mollendo, Peru, is interrupted. Ecuador is also much disturbed, but Peru is perfectly tranquil.

The Good

It will do you to take Hood's Sarsaparilla beyond estimation. It will give you warm, rich, nourishing blood, strengthen your nerves, tone your stomach, create an appetite, and make you feel better in every way. It is a wonderful invigorator of the system, and wards off colds, fevers, pneumonia and the grip. The best winter medicine is Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Hood's Sarsaparilla. Sold by all dealers in medicine. Price 25c. Hood's Pills cure biliousness, indigestion.

The other day Governor Barnes returned from St. Louis over the Sapulpa branch of the Frisco.

Territorial Librarian Dodson, in addition to being an official, is also territorial agent for an insurance company.

Mr. Hitchcock, the new secretary of the Interior, has never been in Oklahoma. He should be invited out to look it over.

Away out in western Oklahoma a Christmas tree consists of a Cottonwood with the limbs wrapped in green tissue paper.

There is a scheme on foot to build a natatorium in Guthrie next spring. The Seatonian Drug company has the matter in charge.

There is big trouble on over in the Osage country, such trouble as mortal man, not dwelling on an Indian reservation, can know.

The Indian Sentinel thinks that the Cherokee courts should remain where congress has buried them. They were a very large expense, and but little good.

Judge Keaton has returned from Washington and says that the supreme court will take up County Clerk Cafery's case of Oklahoma county immediately after holidays.

The Sayings says that the people of Wagoner should not get in too big a hurry over the waterworks question as such things cost a tremendous outlay of money and take time, all of which is true.

The El Reno Compress and Storage company has shipped 17,300 bales of cotton this season, 13,300 of which was exported. Thirteen thousand bales went to England, 300 to Japan, and 4,000 were shipped to New England states.

The Indian appropriation bill which passed the house on the 23 of December was amended in the senate, the amendment being offered by Senator Pettigrew and contains an important feature of special interest to the people of Oklahoma. The following is the amendment: "That all settlers under the homestead laws of the United States upon public lands acquired prior to the passage of this act, by treaty or agreement from the various Indian tribes, or upon military reservations which have been opened to settlement, who have or who shall hereafter reside upon the tract entered in good faith for the period required by existing law, shall be entitled to a patent for the land so entered upon the payment to the local land officers of the usual and customary fees. No other or further charge of any kind whatsoever shall be required from such settler to entitle him to a patent for the land covered by his entry, provided that the right to commute any such entry and pay for said lands in the option of any such settler and in the time and at the prices now fixed by existing laws shall remain in full force and effect."

There are in the Indian territory about 350,000 whites, 150,000 Negroes and 17,000 of these are freedmen. There are 150,000 Indians or tribal people. There are 300 Baptist churches white and Indians, 18 associations, 9 were white and 4 Negro, and 5 might be regarded as distinctively Indians.

In these 5 associations there are 60 Baptist churches with a membership of 4,051. We have in the Oklahoma and Indian territories about 80 Indian Baptist churches with an estimated membership of about 5,000. We have located at Muskogee the Baptist Indian university and the Atoka Academy located at Atoka, I. T., and in Oklahoma we have the Wichita Mission school founded near Ardmore. The total enrollment in these schools are 362 of whom 206 are males and 156 females. We have 247 Negro Baptist churches in the Indian territory with a membership of 8,000. There are 40,000 Negro Baptist children in the Indian territory who are of school age and no arrangement for their education has been made. They need schools to prepare them for the higher life.

Looking at these 40,000 Negro Baptist children and seeing their need we have succeeded in securing 10 acres of land 2 1/2 miles north of Muskogee to build a Negro Baptist college to be known as the "Edward Baptist College." Brother Jack Edward, a good deacon of our Baptist give up the land and the school claims his name. We have succeeded in securing the services of the best and most highly educated Negro professors in the country, namely: F. J. Gordon, A. M. president, professor of Mental and Moral philosophy. Rev. A. S. Green, A. M. D. D., professor of Greek, Latin and Hebrew. Rev. J